

REMARKS

Applicant is in receipt of the Office Action mailed January 28, 2005. Claims 1-9, 15-24, 31-40, and 46 were rejected. Claims 10-14, 25-30, and 41-45 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims, but would otherwise be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant thanks the Examiner for consideration of these claims. Reconsideration of the present case is earnestly requested in light of the following remarks.

Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1-9, 15-24, 31-40, and 46 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 7, 11, 49, 21, 44, and 62 of U.S. Patent No. 6,687,245. Applicant has filed herewith a terminal disclaimer with respect to this patent. Thus, Applicant submits that these obviousness-type double patenting rejections have been overcome.

CONCLUSION

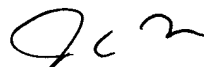
Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel PC Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5686-00400/JCH.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
- ☒ Notice of Change of Address
- ☒ Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate a Double Patenting Rejection Over a Prior Patent
- ☒ Power of Attorney By Assignee and Revocation of Previous Powers

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey C. Hood
Reg. No. 35,198
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel PC
P.O. Box 398
Austin, TX 78767-0398
Phone: (512) 853-8800
Date: 4/7/2005 JCH/IMF